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UNDER THE PATRONAGE
AND BY COMMAND OF
T H E I R M A J E S T I E S.

M E S S I A H,

A SACRED ORATORIO,

Performed in *St. Margaret's Church, Westminster,*

On *Thursday, May 31, 1792,*

For the ROYAL SOCIETY of MUSICIANS, and their
DISTRESSED FAMILIES.

PRICE 1S. ONLY.

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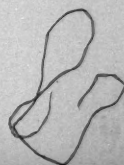
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Royal Society of Musicians.

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Those marked thus * are Honorary Subscribers; and those marked thus § are Governors for the present Year, commencing at Midsummer, 1791, and those with this Mark † are the Court of Assistants elected the 24th Day of November, 1751, and at several other subsequent Meetings.

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THE Governors beg Leave to inform the Nobility and Gentry, to whom this CHARITY is so much obliged, that from *June 1790 to June 1791*, they have necessarily laid out and expended for the Support of *Decayed Musicians* and their *Families*; *Widows of Decayed Musicians*; and in maintaining and educating *Orphans* who are left in Distress, and in putting them Apprentice; and for Medicine, Burials, and other incidental Charges relating to the CHARITY, the Sum of £.1802l. 10s. 9d.—And that the Books are open and may be inspected by any Gentleman (being a Subscriber to the CHARITY) the First Sunday in every Month, at a Meeting of the Governors, at the KING'S ARMS, *Marybone-Street, Golden-Square*.

N. B. All Expences attending the Meeting of the Governors, Court of Assistants, and Committee for managing of this Concert, are defrayed by themselves.

M E S S I A H.

P A R T I.

RECIT. accomp. Mr. HARRISON.

COMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God;
speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that
her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare
ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a high-
way for our God.

S O N G.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill
made low; the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

CHORUS.

C H O R U S.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

RECIT. accompanied. Mr. BELLAMY, jun.

Thus saith the Lord of hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land: and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all Nations shall come: the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple; even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in: behold! he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

SONG. Mr. BARTLEMAN.

But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appeareth?
For he is like a refiner's fire.

C H O R U S.

And he shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord in offering of righteousness.

RECIT.

RECIT. Mr. KELLY.

Behold ! a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name EMMANUEL, God with us.

S O N G a n d C H O R U S.

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountains : O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength ; lift it up, be not afraid : say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God.

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

RECIT. accompanied, Mr. SALE.

For behold ! darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people : but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

S O N G.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light ; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

D

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder : and his name shall be called WONDERFUL ! COUNSELLOR ! the mighty GOD ! the everlasting FATHER, the PRINCE of PEACE.

RECITATIVE. Madame MARA.

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

RECITATIVE accompanied.

And, lo ! the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were fore afraid.

RECITATIVE.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for, behold ! I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people ; for unto you is born this day, in the city of David a SAVIOUR, which is CHRIST the LORD !

RECITATIVE.

RECITATIVE, accompanied.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

CHORUS.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards all men !

SONG. Master WALSH.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion ; shout, O daughter of Jerufalem ; behold, thy king cometh unto thee !

He is the righteous Saviour, and he shall speak peace unto the heathen.

RECIT. Mrs. HARRISON.

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped ; then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

SONG.

SONG. Mrs. HARRISON.

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

SECOND PART. Madame MARA.

Come unto him all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and he will give you rest.

Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

C H O R U S.

His yoke is easy, and his burden is light.

END OF THE FIRST PART.

PART II.

CHORUS.

BEHOLD the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins
of the world !

SONG. Miss POOL.

He was despised and rejected of men ; a man of sorrows,
and acquainted with grief.

CHORUS.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows ;
he was wounded for our transgressions ; he was bruised for
our iniquities ; the chastisement of our peace was upon him.

And with his stripes we are healed.

E

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way.

And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

RECIT. accompanied. Mr. KELLY.

All they that see him, laugh him to scorn ; they shoot out their lips, and shake heads, saying,

CHORUS.

He trusted in God that he would deliver him ; let him deliver him, if he delight in him.

RECIT. accomp. Mr. HARRISON.

Thy rebuke hath broken his heart ; he is full of heaviness : he looked for some to have pity on him, but there was no man, neither found he any to comfort him.

SONG.

Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto his sorrow !

RECIT.

RECIT. accompanied, Mrs. HARRISON.

He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of thy people was he stricken.

S O N G.

But thou didst not leave his soul in hell; nor didst thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption.

S E M I - C H O R U S.

ALL THE PRINCIPAL SINGERS.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.

S E M I - C H O R U S.

Who is the King of Glory?

S E M I - C H O R U S.

The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

S E M I - C H O R U S.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in.

SEMI-

SEMI-CHORUS.

Who is the King of Glory ?

SEMI-CHORUS.

The Lord of hosts ; he is the King of Glory.

FULL CHORUS.

The Lord of hosts ; he is the King of Glory.

RECIT. Mr. KELLY.

Unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee ?

CHORUS.

Let all the angels of God worship him.

SONG. Mr. BELLAMY, Junr.

Thou art gone up on high ; thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men, yea, even for thine enemies, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

The Lord gave the word, great was the company of the preachers.

SONG. Miss CORRI.

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

CHORUS.

Their sound is gone into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

SONG. Mr. SALE.

Why do the nations so furiously rage together; and why do the people imagine a vain thing?

The Kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord, and against his Anointed.

F

CHORUS.

CHORUS.

Let us break their bonds afunder, and cast away their yokes
from us.

RECIT. Mr. KELLY.

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the
Lord shall have them in derision.

SONG.

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash
them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

CHORUS.

Hallelujah! for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The
kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord,
and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

King of kings, and Lord of lords. Hallelujah.

END OF THE SECOND PART.

PART III.

SONG. Madame MARA.

I KNOW that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand
at the latter day upon the earth : and though worms destroy
this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ
risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

SEMI-CHORUS.

Since by man came death,

FULL CHORUS.

By man came also the resurrection of the dead ;

SEMI-CHORUS.

For as in Adam all die,

FULL CHORUS.

Even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

RECIT.

RECITATIVE, accompanied, Mr. BARTLEMAN.

Behold ! I tell you a mystery ; we shall not all sleep ; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet.

S O N G.

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

RECIT. Mr. GORE.

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

DUET. Mr. HARRISON and Mr. GORE.

O death ! where is thy sting ?

O grave ! where is thy victory ?

The sting of death is sin,

And the strength of sin is the law,

C H O R U S.

But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

SONG.

SONG. Mrs. HARRISON.

If God be for us, who can be against us? Who shall lay any think to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, who is he that condemneth?

It is Christ that died, yea rather that is risen again, who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us.

GRAND CHORUS.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever! Amen.

F I N I S.